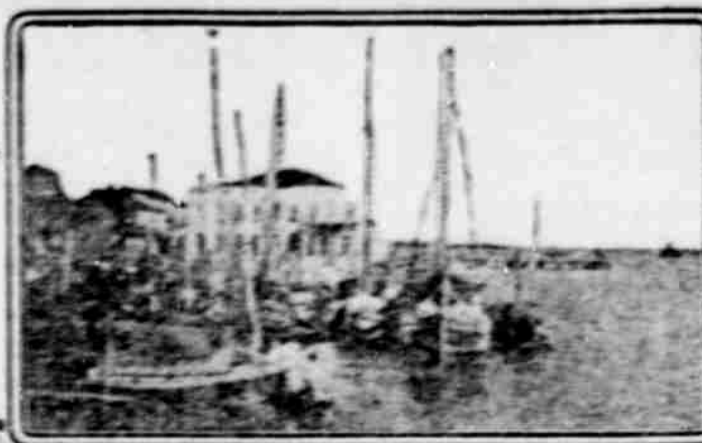


A Trip to PAULO AFFONSO FALLS in Brazil

By H.W. FURNISS



THE QUAY AT PENEDO

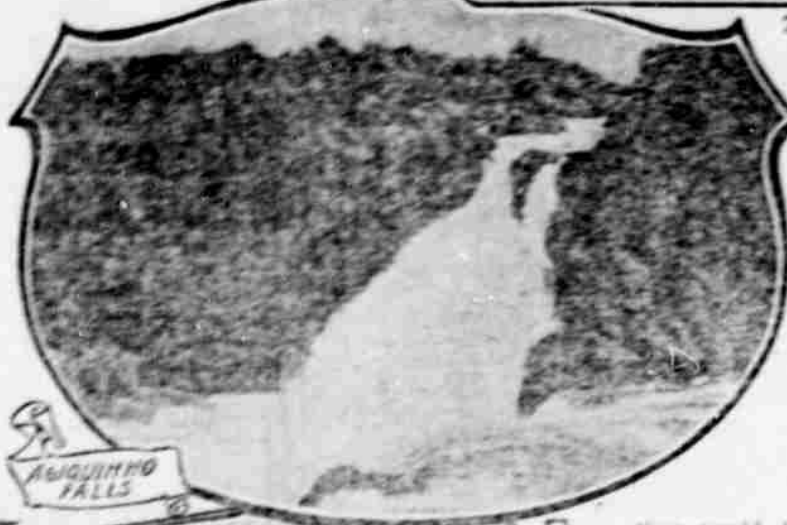


For tourists ever have more than a glance of a very small section of Brazil, as they travel by large steamers which only touch at the more important coast cities and they accept, without question, the volunteered advice of resident fellow-countrymen who have never traveled in the interior of the country. These speak as if from personal knowledge, though in reality, of the difficulties, if not danger, to such travel.

Though there is individuality in all cities, more striking in some than in others, yet after all, as a result of civilization, there is so marked a similarity that one soon tires of most foreign cities. This monotony seldom extends to travel in the interior of a country, at least not in Brazil, which abounds in an enchanting scenery, remarkable plants, flowers and animals, and marvelous works of nature, giving to the traveler a new sensation at every turn. Such is the effect of a trip to the Paulo Affonso falls.

To reach Paulo Affonso falls it is necessary to take a coastwise vessel from Pernambuco or Bahia to Penedo, about 20 miles up the wonderful Rio Francisco river, which is navigable, except for a short distance on both sides of the falls, for over 1,000 miles into Brazil, and is full of interest from mouth to source.

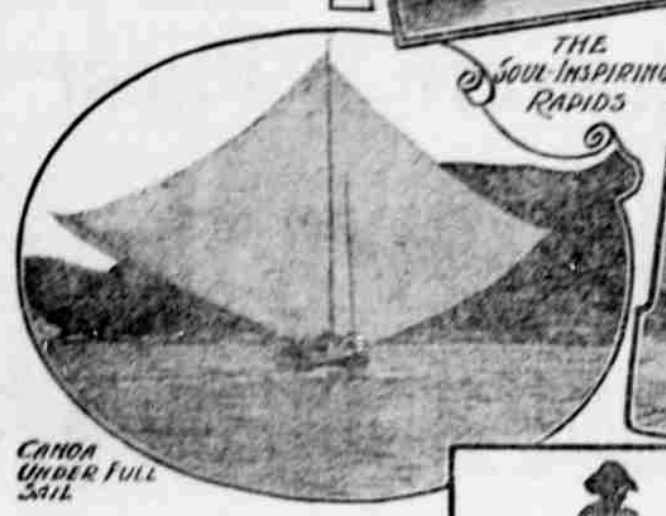
Penedo is the second largest city in the state



ANGUINHO FALLS



THE SOUL-INSPIRING RAPIDS



CANOA UNDER FULL SAIL



COWBOY OF THE PAULO AFFONSO DISTRICT

PIRANHAS LOOKING TOWARD PAULO AFFONSO

of Alagoas. Almost opposite Penedo is the ancient town of Villa Nova in the state of Sergipe. The town is said to have once been an important place, but now chiefly consists of tumble-down houses. A large rice-hulling factory is, however, located here, also large cotton-seed and castor-oil factories and a cotton gin. The products of these factories are shipped to nearby towns.

From Penedo to Piranhas, the head of navigation of the lower San Francisco, or that part of the river below the falls district, one has choice of making the trip either by small double-decked light-draft stern-wheel steamer, which makes a round trip once a week, or by a locally built native sailboat called "canoa."

Canoe is Portuguese (the language of Brazil) for canoe, which it resembles in outline, but differs therefrom in having in the forward third a peculiarly shaped palm-leaf-thatched cabin with dove-shaped windows painted a dark color, contrasting with the other woodwork. Other than a shelf-like affair running around on a level with the windows and used either as seat or bunk, no occasion warrants, the cabin has no furnishings. The rest of the boat, except an area over the rudder on which stands the helmsman, and the small space occupied by a built-in box filled with sand, on which the cooking is done, is utilized as cargo space and is sufficient to carry from 10 to 20 horses or oxen, packed crosswise like sardines.

The size and character of the boat does not appeal to our idea of a canoe. Such a boat, with its crew of two men, can be chartered at a reasonable figure, while frequently a passage can be arranged for at a reduction on steamer rates.

Whether to take steamer or canoe is difficult to advise; that would depend upon the temperament of the traveler, the company and the circumstances. In the various trips of the writer, steamer or canoe has been used, in accord with mood or necessity. As to time, one method is about as quick as the other, each consuming two days in going the 150 miles and like time in returning. The steamer remains at Piranhas but one day, so that, unless it is desired to consume a week in the neighborhood of the falls, the canoe offers the only quick return to Penedo. On the steamer meals are procurable, while on the canoe provisions must be supplied by the voyager or arranged for with the captain. In either case it is wise to take some prepared food, as the cooks make chiefly native dishes, which require an educated palate for appreciation. Whether by steamer or canoe, unless mosquito proof, one must of necessity have a mosquito bar; a hammock or camp bed is a wise provision. In the daytime mosquitoes are not troublesome, but with the setting of the sun, when the boats usually tie up for the night, they become excessively annoying.

Voyage by canoe is both romantic and thrilling. Every day, commencing at ten o'clock, off Penedo, a stiff breeze arises and blows upstream with such force that the canoes, with their large sails spread, resembling at a distance huge bats, seem to fly upstream, frequently with such speed as to overtake and pass the steamer, which has left some time before. The river is practically straight, and the farther up one goes the more

and Gararu, in the state of Sergipe, and S. Braz, Traipu and Pau d'Assucar, in the state of Alagoas. All of these places are of sufficient interest to warrant short stops. They are the river ports of large sections in which cotton, beans, corn, rice and cattle are raised in large quantities. Rice is chiefly raised along the river itself and in ponds formed adjacent thereto when the river is in freshet.

Pau d'Assucar is so called because of a large hill on the river front which resembles a sugar loaf, but, unfortunately for the town, it acts as a barrier to the wind and causes the sand to be thrown up in such quantities that the portion of the town adjacent thereto has to be periodically excavated.

Piranhas is a picturesque village built in terraces around the curve of a practically barren hill. At this point one hears much of the "piranhas," or scissor fish, a terror along the whole San Francisco river, though said to be in greater numbers here than elsewhere. This fish has a peculiar shaped head with serrated teeth bent backward. It is of carnivorous propensities, frequently attacking and biting pieces of animals which go down to the river to drink. Even men are said to have been victims to it.

From Piranhas there is a railroad to Jatoba, 71 miles distant, where navigation for the upper San Francisco is resumed. A little more than half way to Jatoba is the Falls Station, a desolate place with only a closed station house surrounded by a thicket, travel to the falls being too light to warrant even a caretaker. It is best, therefore, to stop at Pedras, a small village reached just before the station. Here guides, horses and food can be procured for the rest of the journey, which will take from two to three hours' riding.

The ride to the falls is best made very early in the morning, otherwise the heat is so intense that the trip would not be enjoyable. The road is frequently through dense thickets in which are found oncas (feline concolor), small wild cats, deer, preta (cavea aperea) a rattlesnake animal hunted by the natives, wild hog (dicotyles), several varieties of small monkeys and birds. Here parrots, paroquets, wild pigeons and doves occur in flocks. In the dry season snakes, particularly rattlesnakes, are seen in great numbers, doubtless due to the drying up of the short, stiff grass, which renders them more visible.

Paulo Affonso seems to have moods, its appearance markedly differing with the seasons, or, more properly speaking, with the volume of water in the river, which is dependent upon season. The writer has made the trip there at the three

principal stages of the river and notes that the cataract itself does not change much in form as a result of volume of water. However, when the river is in freshet additional cataracts are formed by the water passing through the ravines, which at other times are dry, and leaping over the high cliff direct into the lower whirlpool. The rapids, on the contrary, are materially changed by any variation in the volume of water and, were they approachable when the river is high, they would doubtless be devoid of the great beauty which characterizes them at other periods.

The ideal time to visit the falls is just after the river has fallen sufficiently to allow one to cross the numerous rocky ravines through which, when the river is high, water is rushing, preventing a near approach to the true river bed and the falls. Soon after the freshet, which is from November to March, the grass springs up and the plants burst into bloom. Gaudy colors then predominate, from the deep yellow of the trumpet flower, the reds and blues of other plants, the beautiful pink flower of the "cobolia brava," which, when eaten cause the death of so many animals, to the black seed pod of the "blackwood" bush and the exquisite white bloom of the "cerise" which pop open at night, exhaling its delicate but penetrating odor. After a few weeks the dry season sets in. The grass and ephemeral flowering plants are then scorched by the sun, leaving only a few hardy bushes and the cacti.

Consisting as it does of a succession of rapids ending in a fall, opinion differs as to which point about Paulo Affonso one should first visit. To the writer the most beautiful and awe-inspiring portion is the rapids. One in viewing them realizes the truth of the words of a noted traveler, that "if Niagara be the monarch of cataracts, Paulo Affonso is assuredly the king of rapids." Either as rapids or falls, it stands unique. It has none of the artificial surroundings of Niagara, neither parks, houses, nor work of man. Instead, it remains unadorned, as it has been for centuries, with its almost barren banks standing like walls and more resembling cast iron than, as they are in reality, rock painted black by the iron and manganese held in solution by the water when the river is in freshet.

Living near the falls are a few men who, knowing the most accessible footpaths to the various points of interest, will act as guides for a small fee. However, they are not obtrusive or insistent in proffering their services; on the contrary, one has to make inquiry to find them.

The falls are slightly crescentic in form. The main body of water rushes down the steep incline of the last rapids to the Mai da Cachoeira, where it hurls itself with great momentum against a steep black wall directly in front of it, rebounds, swishing, swirling, churning and foaming, only to be pushed over the abyss, at a right angle to its original course, by the dancing, foaming waters of the Angiquinho before the water can recover its natural appearance. The width of the river at this point is about 50 feet, and the depth of the water at the base of the falls is given as 85 feet. The river then rushes straight on for a few hundred feet, only to be hurled back by a rock wall 300 feet high, forming the lower whirlpool, from which it finally escapes at a right angle and passes for some miles through a narrow gorge.

The guide next leads one to the river above, where, hemmed in by low banks of black rock, it is broad and quiet, with nothing to suggest the turbulent waters just left. Continuing upstream, one sees numerous islands, mere rocks projecting like monuments from the water, and notes that already the water has commenced to hurry.

A short distance below the river makes its first leap of 20 feet. This is followed by the "Valvem de Cima" (upper come and go), a miniature whirlpool, where the water ebbs and flows at off-repeated intervals. Farther on, the rock banks of the river approach each other and through clefts in the rock the river is compressed into five narrow branches, four of which immediately start their descent by tumbling 15 or 20 feet and, becoming a mass of seething foam, rushes down the steep incline with a fury that almost causes the earth to shake and with a roar that can be heard for miles, thus forming the soul-inspiring rapids.

According to the guide, the trip to Paulo Affonso would not be complete without a visit to what he styles the wonderful "Furna do Morcego" (bats' cave). To see this one is induced to climb, crawl, and, if not very careful, fall down the zigzag path leading to the edge of the lower whirlpool where, after literally scrambling over the rubbish thrown up by it, one is conducted to the large gaping entrance to the cave. The cave itself is disappointing. It is nothing more than a large opening in the bank, and is uninteresting unless one expects the great number of vampire bats which inhabit it. These are very troublesome to the cattle raisers in the vicinity.

From the mouth of the cave one has a good view of the whirlpool, but with thoughts of the difficult climb necessary to return it is doubtful if this side trip has been worth the trouble.

AMUSEMENT FEATURES OF STATE FAIR ARE HIGH CLASS

Airships, Riding and Boating Devices and Band Festival will Afford Fun and Frolic; "Canals of Venice" Is New Feature

A "Midway Carnival," vaudeville productions, airship flights, riding and boating devices and a band festival fairly generalizes the many and varied amusement attractions at the State Fair. All attractions are high class and the best that money can buy.

The Great Patterson Shows comprising sixteen separate shows and two riding devices will be seen in the Amusement Park. The special feature of these shows will be the trained animal show consisting of well-trained elephants, horses, lions, tigers and dogs.

The two riding devices will consist of a steeple chase and a giant Ferris wheel. Specially noteworthy of all the Patterson attractions will be two free acts daily. In one of these acts, elephants trained almost to the point of human intelligence will entertain the spectators. In another a man will descend a spiral tower sixty feet high, perched fearlessly upon a unicycle, resembling a bicycle cut in half.

The carnival people will furnish a high-class band of sixteen pieces.

Boating
"Canals of Venice," operated with a plant costing \$12,000 is on the list of permanent attractions this year. The plant is under construction and will be complete by the opening of the fair.

Patrons of the attraction will be furnished a boat ride on a winding canal which winds its way through beautiful scenery, representing places of interest in Venice, the beautiful Italian city.

In addition to this there will be boating at the usual place on Fair Grounds Lake.

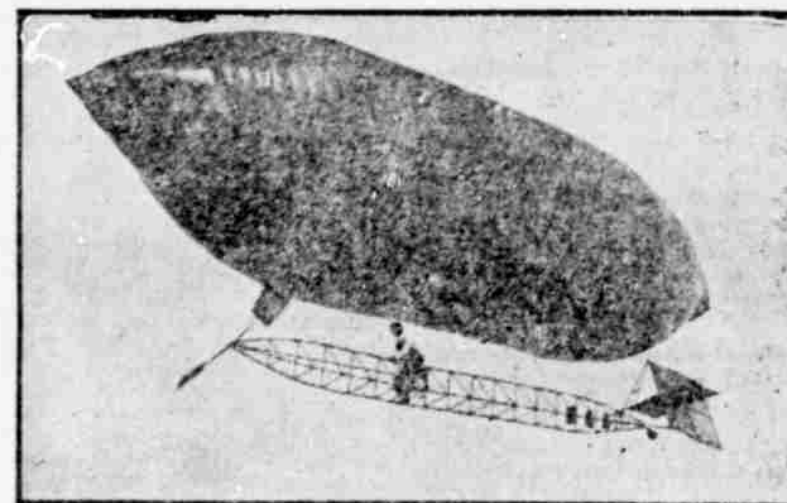
be lodged in a specially-constructed aerodome on the grounds, where a competent official will lecture on the mechanism of the apparatus.

Figure Eight
The Figure Eight and Carousel are too well known by past patrons of the fair to require any special mention. The American people apparently never tire of a riding device, a fact which amusement capitalists have laid hold of as a permanent stock in trade. This attraction is a permanent feature of the fair and is used extensively through the long summer months by young and old.

Vaudeville Specials
Dividing their time about equally between performances in the Livestock Pavilion and in front of the Grand Stand will be The Four Ishikawa Japanese Troupe, The Zamora Family, Cordua and Maud, appearing in special vaudeville. The performances in the Livestock Pavilion will be during the progress of the First Annual Horse Show at night.

The Four Ishikawa Japanese Troupe, the world's greatest equestrians, will appear in original specialty tents far above the average vaudeville production and without question will be a daily delight to State Fair goers. The costumes are oriental in the extreme and especially rich in texture and tone.

The Zamora Family, clad in the finest costumes money can buy, will appear in a trapeze trio act. This family has attracted widespread attention in both America and Europe and is acknowledged as one of the greatest aerial features in the world, by first-class theaters and open air resorts from Maine to California.



STROEBEL'S AIRSHIP

Airship
Perhaps no amusement attraction on the ground will attract more attention than the daily flights of the Stroebel Airship. Few Oklahomans have seen a successful airship flight notwithstanding the fact that aviation has progressed by rapid stages in the last few years.

The Stroebel device is a dirigible airship, similar to those used in the Russo-Japanese war. Successful flights were made with this machine last year at the State Fair of Arkansas, the Tri-State Fair of Memphis, Tenn.; Spokane State Fair; International Exposition of San Antonio, Texas, and the Fair of Cambridge, N. Y. At several state expositions the Stroebel Airship has made four successful annual flights.

Between flights the machine will

Cordua and Maud, known as the "Craze of Europe," a clever team of acrobatic artists, will feature a physical strength act that is a thriller. Cordua, balanced upon one arm on a high pedestal, with body neatly poised, holds in his teeth the weight of his woman partner, fearlessly perched upon a bicycle and swinging clear of the ground.

Value of Confidence
The proverb has it that a man's character is no better than his creed; the dwarf is without a creed and longs for none. It is the pushing man who boasts of a creed and convictions along with it. The man who has full confidence in himself seldom comes out at the short end of the horn in the battle of life.

Eggs of the Plover
Plovers' eggs will always be found with their points to the center, and are invariably four in number, and if disarranged the mother bird speedily rearranges them. They are among the most difficult to find, for their color harmonizes wonderfully with their surroundings.

Warranted Heart Whole
"Break an hour's promise in love! He that will divide a minute into a thousand parts and break but a part of a thousandth part of a minute in the affairs of love, it may be said of him that Cupid hath clapped him on the shoulder, but I'll warrant him heart whole."—Rosalind.

For the Gardener
A case for gardeners is as neat as it is possible to make such a compendium of tools. In it are harbored a pruning knife, thorn scissors and those for gathering flowers, nosegay wire, a measure, a note book and other convenient items.

Marriage in Germany
In Germany marriages by any foreign consular officer are strictly prohibited—except where they are special treaty stipulations.

Cotton for the Chinese
The cotton cloth needed to clothe the inhabitants of China is about eight billion yards. This amount would carpet a pathway 60 feet wide from the earth to the moon or cover one more than 20 miles wide from New York to Chicago.

Silk Workers of England
There were about 30,000 persons employed in the silk industry of England, according to the latest returns, and of these over 20,000 were women.

Substitute for Wall Paper
Among the peculiar substitutes for wall paper is that used in one of the New York art galleries. It is nothing but a huge rag carpet of neutral tone that covers the entire wall space. "I had it woven especially for this purpose," said the owner, "and my pictures never had a better setting, though I am bound to admit that the carpet attracts as much attention as the paintings."

The New Way
The practical politician who in a cruder stage of his art kissed the ladies and showered the women with insane compliments, now preserves more of his self-respect, while achieving substantially equal results, by telling the fat men they are getting thin and the lean men they are getting stout.—Puck.

Feline Food
We imported 375,000 canaries last year, which may account for the increased avoirdupois of the domestic cat.

Horrid
Valet (entering chamber)—I heard you scream, sir. Wot's the blooming row, sir? Algy—"You'd better sit up with me until morning, James. I just had the awfulest nightmare! I dreamed I was walking along the avenue without me walkin' stick, James!"—Chicago News.